

UPDATE

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U.S. Department of Education
September 2002

DATES TO REMEMBER

September

- 6 Courtesy Corps applications due, FFA Center
- 15 Portfolios for Agricultural Communications, Agricultural Issues and Marketing Plan CDEs due, FFA Center
- 15 Cover letters, resumes and references for Job Interview CDE due, FFA Center

October

- 3-5 National Council for Agricultural Education Board of Directors meeting, Alexandria, Va.
- 30 75th National FFA Convention, Louisville, Ky.
- 31 75th National FFA Convention, Louisville, Ky.

November

- 1 75th National FFA Convention, Louisville, Ky.
- 2 75th National FFA Convention, Louisville, Ky.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FFA

National FFA Membership Update: The National FFA membership for 2001-2002 is 461,043 with 7,308 chapters. This is a 19-year high. Please see attachment for a state chart comparing chapters and members for 2000-2001 vs. 2001-2002.

Help conduct a survey. The National FFA Organization will launch a comprehensive surveying at this year's convention to discover what convention attendees like and dislike about convention activities. Unlike previous years, the survey will not be done on computer or via ffa.org. Instead, we want to send staff, out into the crowd to personally talk with people and collect data. Surveying will occur Friday, Nov. 1 and Saturday, Nov. 2. Times are flexible. If you are interested in an opportunity to help administer the surveys, please check your personal convention schedule before responding to Katie Dallam at kdallam@ffa.org <<mailto:kdallam@ffa.org>> or call 317-802-4216. More information will be sent in early September.

Remember to reserve housing for the national convention. The Louisville Housing Bureau began assigning convention rooms June 15. All requests in by that date should have received confirmation by Aug. 1. If you normally reserve rooms through the National FFA Organization (e.g., state staff, judges, etc.) you will be contacted regarding this year's housing process. Contact: Andrea McNeely, 317-802-4288, amcneely@ffa.org <<mailto:amcneely@ffa.org>> or Katie Dallam, 317-802-4216, kdallam@ffa.org <<mailto:kdallam@ffa.org>>.

See 75 years of FFA history in art. During the national FFA convention, 33 oil

paintings commissioned for the FFA calendar series (1951-1984) will be on display at the Kentucky Center for the Arts Wednesday, Oct. 30 through Saturday, Nov. 2 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Experience the history of FFA and trace its growth through the years. Artists: Arthur Sarnoff, Harold Anderson, Bill Medcalf, E.N. Erickson. Admission is free.

Invitation for alumni band and chorus. Through the years, hundreds of FFA members have inspired convention attendees through music. In honor of the 75th anniversary of FFA, the national FFA band and chorus invites former band and chorus members to join with the 75th National FFA Convention band and chorus for a special performance.

Alumni Band

Contact Joe LaJoye, national FFA band director, via e-mail at jplajoye@triton.net [<mailto:jplajoye@triton.net>](mailto:jplajoye@triton.net)

by Oct. 20, 2002. The Alumni band will join the National FFA Band at the American Degree Lunch Saturday, Nov. 2 at noon. Play one song or the whole set. Luncheon tickets are \$15 and can be purchased using the pre-registration form or during the convention at registration in South Wing Lobby A. Alumni band members should report to South Wing A at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 2. Bring your instrument and a folding music stand. Music will be provided at this time.

Alumni Chorus

Contact Patti LaJoye, national FFA chorus director, via e-mail at jplajoye@triton.net [<mailto:jplajoye@triton.net>](mailto:jplajoye@triton.net)

by Oct. 20, 2002. The Alumni chorus will join the National FFA chorus Friday, Nov. 1 at the Band and Chorus Concert (6-6:45 p.m.). Alumni chorus members should report to the East Ballroom in Freedom Hall at 5:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1. Instructions and music will be provided at this time.

Courtesy Corps applications due! Courtesy Corps applications are due Sept. 6, 2002. This year all chapter application must be approved by the state and include a signed copy of the Code of Ethics. Please direct all questions to April Pruet, apruet@ffa.org [<mailto:apruet@ffa.org>](mailto:apruet@ffa.org), 317-802-4256 or fax applications to 317-802-5256.

Be on the lookout for the 2002-2003 National FFA merchandise materials-including the blue catalog (apparel & gift), the gold catalog (awards & supply), a flyer on nationally sanctioned fundraisers and an Agricultural Education Resources flyer. These materials represent the best FFA has to offer members, advisors and state staff alike! Remember, income generated from the sale of merchandise directly supports the operations of the organization and its programs.

You will notice several new things in this package.

- New Merchandise-check out several new FFA products including 75th anniversary commemorative items.
- Commemorative Official FFA Jacket-check out the commemorative official jacket from the 1930s. Perfect to use as a fundraiser or gift for a special FFA supporter
- Official FFA Jacket-commitment, dedication, pride. Encourage your FFA members to show their pride for the organization by donning the fabled blue corduroy jacket.
- Chapter T-shirt Contest-check out the winning designs from the first annual chapter T-shirt contest! This is a great way for chapters to earn some extra money.
- Girls Merchandise-the blue catalog features an increased line of girls merchandise. Your FFA members (and their mothers, sisters, nieces and girlfriends) will love it!
- Sweatshirts-take a look at the expanded line of FFA sweatshirts. Sure to be a hit with your FFA members!
- FFA Private Label-many new apparel items are exclusively designed for FFA and

- feature a newly developed FFA label.
- Personalize It-Many of the T-shirts, jackets, hats and other merchandise can be personalized. What a great way to promote your chapter and officer teams!
 - Fundraisers-for the first time ever, FFA has five nationally sanctioned fundraisers, developed from a true “grass roots” effort.
 - Ag Ed Resources-See the latest and greatest in agricultural education resources. For a complete catalog, check out www.ffaunlimited.org <<http://www.ffaunlimited.org>> or your local program success CD-ROM.

Conference staff applications can now be found on the Web. MFE, ALD, EDGE, WLC, and BLAST Off trainer applications are now located on the FFA web site under the Job Opportunities FFA Center tab. The BLAST Off application should be postmarked on or before Nov. 1, 2002. The WLC application should be postmarked on or before Dec. 1, 2002. MFE, ALD, and EDGE applications should be postmarked on or before Feb. 1, 2003. Contact: Pat Faust, Human Resources, 317- 802-4211 or pfaust@ffa.org <<mailto:pfaust@ffa.org>>.

School Officials Luncheon. Invite your state official, school official or important education partners to experience motivational speakers, outstanding teachers and top students at the School Officials Luncheon. This educational and entertaining event will take place Friday, Nov. 1, 2002 at 11:30 a.m., during the 75th National FFA Convention. Take this opportunity to show your education partners a unique side of the convention. In addition to the luncheon, we welcome them to experience the many suggested activities including convention sessions 4 and 6, national FFA leadership workshops and the FFA National Agricultural Career Show[®]. The luncheon is FREE; however, seating is limited! Only 300 tickets will be available on a first-come, first-served basis, so please respond early to secure a reservation for this activity. To order your official's complimentary ticket, contact Michele Gilbert, 317-802-4301 or mgilbert@ffa.org <<mailto:mgilbert@ffa.org>>. Have attendee's name, organization, mailing address and e-mail address ready to share when contacting Michele. (Please note the updated phone number, as it was printed incorrectly in the School Officials Luncheon flyer.) Contact Tony Small, tsmall@ffa.org <<mailto:tsmall@ffa.org>>, 317-802-4300 or Michele Gilbert, mgilbert@ffa.org <<mailto:mgilbert@ffa.org>>, 317-802-4301.

New delegate process at 75th convention: A revised delegate process will be initiated at this year's national FFA convention. The new process started this summer at State Presidents' Conference with state delegates voting on issues submitted. The national officer team determined that nine issues are critical for delegates to discuss at this year's convention. All state leaders, local leaders, and members are encouraged to take part in the issue hearings Tuesday morning, Oct. 29, at KFEC in Louisville. A memo explaining this process was sent to state leaders responsible for delegates. For questions about the process or logistics, contact Seth Derner, sderner@ffa.org <<mailto:sderner@ffa.org>> or Tami Lamar, tlamar@ffa.org <<mailto:tlamar@ffa.org>>.

Reconnect with FFA Campaign: The Reconnect campaign for former FFA members is well underway, with ads running in Farm Bureau regional news magazines, Progressive Farmer state magazines, and Crop Insurance TODAY, plus many more planned for the coming months. In addition to print ads, the Reconnect page of the FFA website has received 3,300 hits and has registered 776 members. Look for the FFA at 75 State Planning Guide, available mid-September on the FFA website, to find information and ideas for promoting the Reconnect campaign in your state.

Montgomery Gentry PSA: Country duo Montgomery Gentry recorded two excellent public service announcements for the FFA at 75 celebrations. Montgomery Gentry's PSAs are available for downloading in MP3 format at http://www.ffa.org/about_ffa/ffa75/index.html. The PSAs can also be found in the National FFA Media Area of the website. Please encourage local radio stations to take advantage of these great public service announcements. Many thanks to Montgomery Gentry, Margie Hunt of Sony Music Nashville and Glenn Sims of FFA New Horizons.

Sky Radio Network Last week, Marketing and Communication Services Team Leader Bill Stagg was interviewed for the Sky Radio Network as part of "Answering America's Call: Associations at Work." This is a special audio program presented by the American Society for Association Executives. The series of interviews will air worldwide on the Radio Forbes Channel on American Airlines in December 2002. The program focuses on prominent not-for-profit organizations and explains how they have created an enormous economic, cultural, and social impact in America through activities designed to achieve their given missions. Stagg's interview combines history with an overview of the diverse career opportunities open to today's students. This illustrates how FFA and agricultural education train members in life skills, preparing them to be successful in all careers. Stagg's full interview is now available on the FFA website in the National FFA Media Area and on the FFA at 75 web page. If you would like to rebroadcast this interview on one of your local radio stations, contact Mickie Miller mmiller@ffa.org or <mailto:mmiller@ffa.org> or 317-802-4226 for rebroadcast information, credits, and permissions.

COMPETITIONS

The Second Annual T-shirt Design Contest entries are due Jan. 31, 2003. FFA is looking for T-shirts and sold in the 2003-2004 National FFA blue catalog and online store. Encourage your FFA members to submit all those fabulous designs that have been produced at the local level. If selected, they will earn 50 percent of the gross profits on the catalog sales for one year. See the 2002-2003 winners in this year's blue catalog. For questions, contact Dawn Sharp dsharp@ffa.org.

EDUCATOR NEWS

The National AgrAbility Training Workshop: The 2002 workshop will be held October 22-25 in Nashville, Tenn. The complete agenda and registration materials for the Workshop are available on the National AgrAbility website at <http://www.agrabilityproject.org>. Be sure to check it weekly for the latest workshop news. This year's new workshop format is designed to provide hands-on experiences for all participants.

Curriculum Materials Service acquires distribution rights from The Council: The

following items, formerly available through The National Council for Agricultural Education, can now be acquired through CMS. Agribusiness in a Global Environment CD, Animal Welfare, Applied Environmental Science, Applied Environmental Science CD, Aquaculture Education Electronic Instructional Library CD, Aquaculture How-To Manuals, Aquatic Resources: Awareness, Understanding and Uses for Education, Community Based Program Planning CD, Decisions and Dollars, Emerging Technologies in Agriculture CD, Equine Science, Food For Everyone, Food For Everyone CD, Maximizing Economic Yield-Crop Production and Marketing, No-Till Management, Rice Production and Marketing and Thoroughbred Materials for Curriculum Integration. For more information or to purchase, please contact the Curriculum Materials Service by phone, 614-292-4848, fax, 800-292-4919, by e-mail cms@osu.edu, or www.ohcms.org <<http://www.ohcms.org>>.

MFE and ALD pilot program a huge success! The pilot program for the 2002-2003 season of Made For Excellence and Advanced Leadership Development conferences was held in Jefferson City, Mo., Aug. 2 and 3. With one of the largest audiences ever in Missouri, seven teams of MFE and three teams of ALD presented a brand-new curriculum for both conferences. Responses from students were outstanding. More than 95 percent of all students in both conferences reported that they would go back to their local chapters and teach others what they learned about excellence and leadership. Terry Heiman, Missouri state director of agriculture education and state FFA advisor, said, "This is one of the best programs I've seen in years. I really appreciate how the focus is on helping students go back home and make a difference in their chapter and community." In addition, this year's MFE and ALD participants will, for the first time, be assessed on what they learned throughout the conference. In initial results, more than 90 percent of the participants had mastered objectives such as defining personal excellence, identifying careers in agriculture, utilizing a problem solving process, and planning solutions for local leadership needs. For more information about MFE or ALD, contact Andy Armbruster aarmbruster@ffa.org <<mailto:aarmbruster@ffa.org>>.

STATE STAFF NEWS

Convention registration materials: State staff can pick up registration materials for themselves, delegates and other groups at the Convention Delegate Registration, Monday, Oct. 28 from 1-5 p.m. at the Executive West Hotel, Edinborough Room. Please note: this is a change in day from the original information previously sent out with the state group registration form. Send questions to Stacia Edmonds 317-802-4261, sedmonds@ffa.org <<mailto:sedmonds@ffa.org>> or Katie Dallam 317-802-4216, kdallam@ffa.org <<mailto:kdallam@ffa.org>>.

Travel to Europe: Each year, state FFA officers have the unique opportunity to travel to Europe to learn about global agriculture and business during the International Leadership Seminar for State Officers (ILSSO). Tentative dates for 2003 are Jan. 4-20. This year's trip includes stops in Germany, Austria and Italy. If you are a newly elected or past state officer and have ever wanted to travel to a foreign country, learn about global agriculture, or spend two amazing weeks with other state FFA officers, then ILSSO is the right place for you! Download application forms and find out more information, e-mail us at global@ffa.org <<mailto:global@ffa.org>>, visit online at www.ffa.org/international or call 317-802-4309.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED IN UPDATE

2002 Career Development Event (CDE) Information

CDE Student Waiver: Each member participating in a National FFA CDE must submit the proper Waiver, Release of Liability and Consent to Medical Treatment form. The National FFA CDE Coordinator must receive the form by Sept. 30, 2002. If a team does not qualify for participation in the national event until after this deadline, the waiver form must be submitted with the certification form. Students who do not submit this form will not be allowed to participate.

Deadlines for Manuscripts and Portfolios:

- All portfolios for Agricultural Communications, Agricultural Issues and Marketing Plan must be submitted to the National FFA Center by Sept. 15, 2002.
- All cover letters, resumes and references for Job Interview must be submitted by Sept. 15, 2002.

Agricultural Mechanics Theme: Material Handling Systems

Please refer to the following website for complete information regarding the 2002 Agricultural Mechanics CDE: [≤http://www.missouri.edu/~pavt0689/natcon.html≥](http://www.missouri.edu/~pavt0689/natcon.html).

UPDATE is also available at [_www.ffa.org/news/html/ffapubsindex.html#update](http://www.ffa.org/news/html/ffapubsindex.html#update)
[≤http://www.ffa.org/news/html/ffapubsindex.html#update≥](http://www.ffa.org/news/html/ffapubsindex.html#update) each month. Attachments are available online.

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The FFA Mission

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for **premier leadership, personal growth** and **career success** through agricultural education.

The Agricultural Education Mission

Agricultural Education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems.

The National FFA Organization is a resource and support organization that does not select, control or supervise state association, local chapter or individual member activities except as expressly provided for in the National FFA Organization Constitution and Bylaws.

The National FFA Organization affirms its belief in the value of all human beings and seeks diversity in its membership, leadership and staff as an equal opportunity employer.

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Membership Final
counts with e...

Assoc. Name	00-01	01-02	Plus or -	00-01	01-02	Plus or Minus	% Change
	Chapters	Chapters		Members	Members	Members	
ALABAMA	315	295	-20	15950	15940	-10	(0.06%)
ALASKA	8	10	2	154	151	-3	(1.95%)
ARIZONA	63	64	1	3590	3589	-1	(0.03%)
ARKANSAS	233	233	0	12534	12870	336	2.68%
CALIFORNIA	309	312	3	55556	56100	544	0.98%
COLORADO	91	90	-1	3879	3819	-60	(1.55%)
CONNECTICUT	21	21	0	2177	2209	32	1.47%
DELAWARE	25	24	-1	1922	1944	22	1.14%
FLORIDA	258	266	8	12476	12781	305	2.44%
GEORGIA	193	206	13	18118	21471	3353	18.51%
HAWAII	22	22	0	487	410	-77	(15.81%)
IDAHO	80	81	1	3606	3585	-21	(0.58%)
ILLINOIS	298	300	2	15944	15662	-282	(1.77%)
INDIANA	182	179	-3	8558	8417	-141	(1.65%)
IOWA	234	229	-5	11356	11379	23	0.20%
KANSAS	159	159	0	7211	6994	-217	(3.01%)
KENTUCKY	142	144	2	13340	13366	26	0.19%
LOUISIANA	200	199	-1	10805	10515	-290	(2.68%)
MAINE	14	16	2	768	640	-128	(16.67%)
MARYLAND	33	30	-3	1281	1238	-43	(3.36%)
MASSACHUSETTS	14	15	1	1049	1095	46	4.39%
MICHIGAN	95	99	4	5286	5208	-78	(1.48%)
MINNESOTA	186	188	2	8641	8897	256	2.96%
MISSISSIPPI	101	106	5	4015	4341	326	8.12%
MISSOURI	284	289	5	20117	20771	654	3.25%
MONTANA	76	76	0	2522	2560	38	1.51%
NEBRASKA	128	132	4	6699	6579	-120	(1.79%)
NEVADA	19	18	-1	645	1217	572	88.68%
NEW HAMPSHIRE	16	17	1	634	704	70	11.04%
NEW JERSEY	38	37	-1	2052	2037	-15	(0.73%)
NEW MEXICO	75	70	-5	3983	3791	-192	(4.82%)
NEW YORK	95	94	-1	3566	3503	-63	(1.77%)
NORTH CAROLINA	193	197	4	13560	13432	-128	(0.94%)
NORTH DAKOTA	79	78	-1	4348	4367	19	0.44%
OHIO	308	301	-7	21806	21419	-387	(1.77%)
OKLAHOMA	356	356	0	21761	22122	361	1.66%
OREGON	102	104	2	4322	4431	109	2.52%
PENNSYLVANIA	145	142	-3	7934	7980	46	0.58%
PUERTO RICO	73	64	-9	2557	2144	-413	(16.15%)
RHODE ISLAND	5	5	0	248	266	18	7.26%
SOUTH CAROLINA	89	87	-2	5660	5679	19	0.34%
SOUTH DAKOTA	80	81	1	3736	3550	-186	(4.98%)
TENNESSEE	172	179	7	12389	12602	213	1.72%
TEXAS	965	965	0	56899	57297	398	0.70%
UTAH	61	59	-2	3060	2956	-104	(3.40%)
VERMONT	15	16	1	362	395	33	9.12%
VIRGINIA	154	153	-1	9126	9037	-89	(0.98%)
WASHINGTON	140	137	-3	8059	7650	-409	(5.08%)
WEST VIRGINIA	63	61	-2	4456	4376	-80	(1.80%)
WISCONSIN	255	255	0	16092	15666	-426	(2.65%)
WYOMING	47	46	-1	1899	1876	-23	(1.21%)
VIRGIN ISLANDS	3	1	-2	83	15	-68	(81.93%)

Total 7312 7308 -4 457,278 461,043 3,765 0.82%